

# 2020 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE MASSACHUSETTS

Funded Communities : Boston/Brookline, Brockton, Fall River, Fitchburg/Gardner, Haverhill/Methuen, Holyoke/Chicopee, Lawrence, Lowell, Lynn, Metro Mayors Coalition (Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Malden, Quincy, Revere, Somerville, Winthrop), New Bedford, Pittsfield, Springfield, Taunton/Attleboro, Worcester

Funded by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Office of Grants and Research, the Charles E. Shannon Community Safety Initiative (Shannon) is modeled after the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Comprehensive Gang Model. Shannon is a multi-sector approach used to address a community's gang and youth violence problem. During 2020, Shannon CSI awarded \$9.3 million to 27 Massachusetts communities greatly impacted by gang activity. Funding supported positive youth development, recreation, case management, street outreach, education employment, targeted suppression, and community mobilization programs. Additionally, Shannon CSI funded the equivalent of approximately 165 full-time positions to strategically address youth gang violence within these communities.

## Strategies, Outcomes, and Funding Allocation\*

Total Funding: \$9,348,398

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
<b>Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention</b>	<b>2,183</b> Received Case Management Services	<b>2,282</b> Received Street Outreach Services	<b>\$2,334,307</b>
<b>Community Mobilization</b>	<b>14,214</b> Community Members Attended Events, Meetings, & Presentations	<b>865</b> Community Events, Meetings, & Presentations Held	<b>\$535,872</b>
<b>Education &amp; Employment</b>	<b>4,723</b> Participated in Education Programs	<b>1,148</b> Participated in Employment Programs	<b>\$1,712,974</b>
<b>Positive Youth Development &amp; Recreation</b>	<b>7,234</b> Participated in Youth Development Programs	<b>5,650</b> Participated in Recreation Programs	<b>\$2,714,805</b>
<b>Suppression</b>	<b>2,472</b> Hot Spot Patrols Completed	<b>415</b> Law Enforcement Supported Home Visits	<b>\$2,050,440</b>

\*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Shannon CSI programs may have adjusted programming options (e.g., reduced numbers served to meet restrictions, remote programming) and/or shifted funding allocations.

## Youth Risk Assessments

50% LOW-RISK*	Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
31% MODERATE-RISK*	Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
19% HIGH-RISK*	Youth who are perpetrators or victims of shooting or stabbing violence, and/or are known gang members.

\* % of youth assessed for risk; responses in risk assessment may have been impacted by changes in context due to COVID-19 pandemic.

## Success Highlight

*"A participant was referred to MJE by their case worker and we provided case management and social-emotional support. The participant was homeless and was gang-affiliated. We were able to assist them in finding employment and temporary housing. The participant regularly participates in workshops and has completed the HiSet in hopes to enroll in college. The participant is no longer in the gang and has reconnected with their family."*  
~Mothers for Justice and Equality

Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Office of Grants and Research, Thomas A. Turco III, Secretary  
To learn more visit: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/shannon-community-safety-initiative-csi>

# Shannon Community Risk Factors 2020\*

	Total Population (2019 Estimate)	Population Lives in Poverty	Unemployment Rate	Total School Population (2019-20)	Economically Disadvantaged	High School Dropout Rate
Massachusetts	6,892,503	9.4%	8.0%	983,058	36.6%	1.8%
Boston	612,600	20.2%	9.3%	72,811	63.0%	4.2%
Brookline	59,121	11.9%	5.0%	8,448	10.8%	0.5%
Brockton	95,708	15.6%	13.0%	18,862	65.5%	3.9%
Fall River	89,541	19.4%	12.9%	14,449	73.8%	3.7%
Fitchburg	40,638	16.4%	11.9%	6,569	66.4%	2.3%
Gardner	20,683	15.0%	10.5%	2,721	56.7%	4.1%
Haverhill	64,014	13.2%	10.4%	10,002	53.6%	3.1%
Methuen	50,706	9.3%	10.5%	8,073	41.9%	1.8%
Holyoke	40,117	29.7%	12.6%	5,576	81.4%	3.6%
Chicopee	55,126	15.3%	10.7%	7,990	58.9%	2.6%
Lawrence	80,028	21.4%	17.6%	17,357	78.5%	5.0%
Lowell	110,997	20.7%	10.3%	17,704	63.3%	3.7%
Lynn	94,299	17.3%	12.4%	17,509	65.1%	4.7%
Cambridge	118,927	13.2%	4.9%	8,199	31.5%	1.9%
Chelsea	39,690	18.8%	12.1%	7,508	70.6%	5.0%
Everett	46,451	13.3%	10.8%	7,918	61.1%	3.7%
Malden	60,470	16.4%	11.5%	7,588	51.9%	3.2%
Quincy	94,470	10.8%	11.4%	9,949	39.0%	0.7%
Revere	53,073	13.1%	13.8%	8,541	56.1%	4.9%
Somerville	81,360	11.9%	6.5%	5,721	44.7%	1.1%
Winthrop	18,544	9.9%	10.2%	2,087	31.9%	1.8%
New Bedford	95,363	21.1%	13.4%	15,868	74.0%	3.2%
Pittsfield	42,142	14.6%	10.7%	6,157	58.6%	2.3%
Springfield	153,606	28.6%	13.8%	29,336	81.8%	4.4%
Taunton	57,464	13.8%	11.4%	8,857	50.6%	1.5%
Attleboro	45,237	8.9%	9.6%	7,187	33.0%	1.4%
Worcester	185,428	21.1%	10.3%	28,620	64.3%	2.6%

\* Shading in chart groups communities by the 15 Shannon sites.

Sources: [www.census.gov/quickfacts](http://www.census.gov/quickfacts); [profiles.doe.mass.edu/](http://profiles.doe.mass.edu/); [www.mass.gov/lwd/economic-data/](http://www.mass.gov/lwd/economic-data/)

## Gang Activity in Massachusetts

464+  
Street Gangs

4,778+  
Gang Members  
Under 25

During 2020, Shannon CSI funded 27 Massachusetts communities greatly impacted by gang activity. Overall, the 15 Shannon sites classified 464+ active gangs and identified 4,778+ members under the age of 25. Gang members continue to aggressively recruit members within schools, specifically utilizing social media. Many sites also reported that gang activity has been expanding into the suburbs of Massachusetts as well as neighboring states. Primary gang-related crimes included drug trafficking, drug distribution, robbery, inter-gang violence, unlawful possession of firearms, etc.

Information contained in this report is from funding applications, reports supplied by the site, MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, US Census, MA Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, and Office of Grants and Research / Research Policy and Analysis Division. Special thanks to the Statewide Research Partner, the Center on Crime and Community Resilience at Northeastern University, for preparing this brief.

# Putting Shannon Dollars to Work to Reduce Youth and Gang Violence

## \$9.3 Million Investment

140 Partners  
in 27 Cities



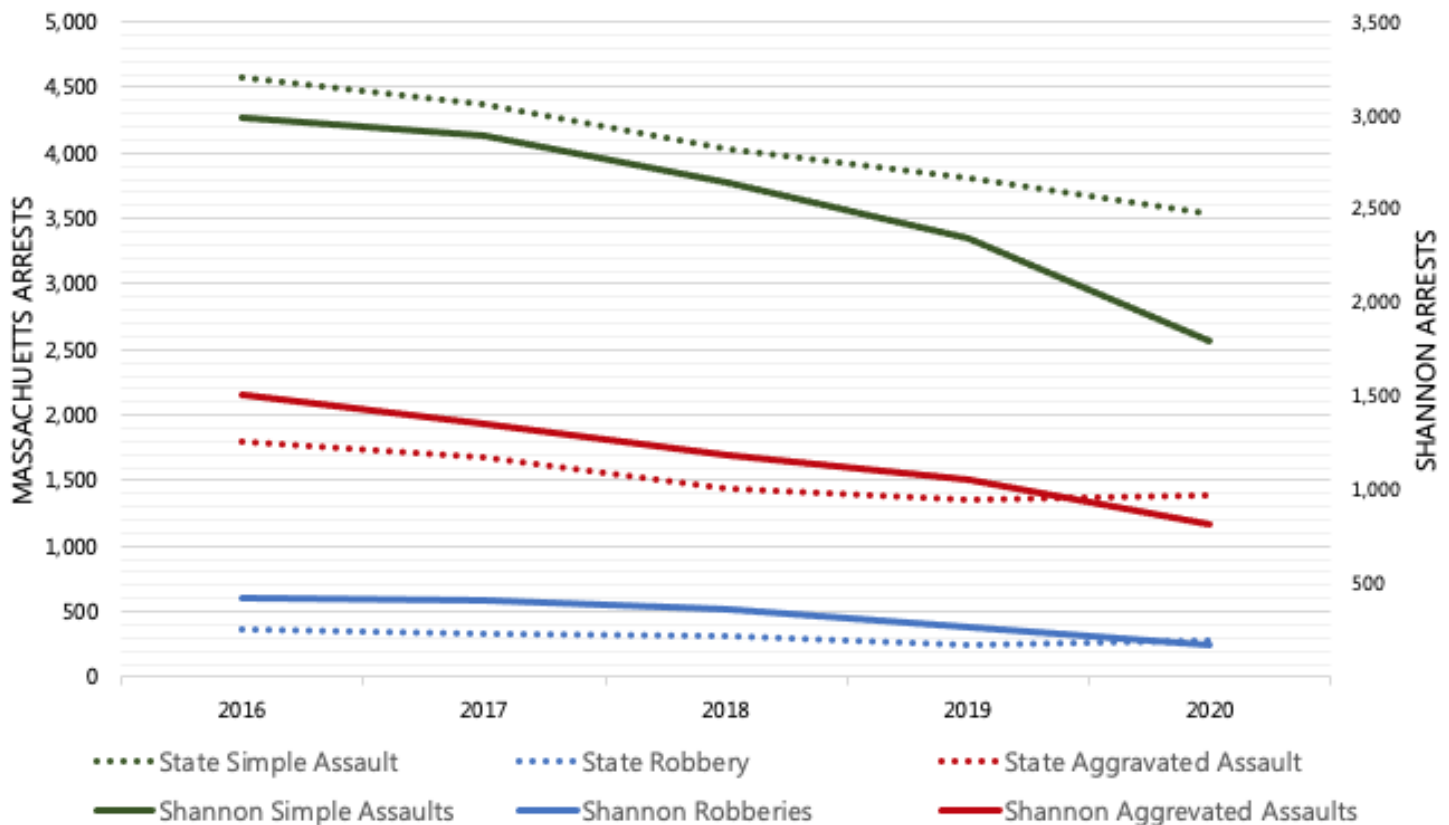
12,702 total youth served,  
averaging \$736 invested per youth  
across all services

\$523 invested per youth in  
Case Management & Street  
Outreach, or Intervention Efforts



\$292 invested per youth in  
Education or Employment Efforts

## 5-Year Crime Trends for Young People Ages 10-24, 2016-2020



## Changes in Crime for Young People Ages 10-24, 2016-2020\*

### Simple assaults in...

- Massachusetts decreased 23%
- Shannon communities decreased 40%

### Robberies in...

- Massachusetts decreased 24%
- Shannon communities decreased 59%

### Aggravated assaults in...

- Massachusetts decreased 22%
- Shannon communities decreased 45%

\*Worcester December data not available at time of publication.

# Overview of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Comprehensive Gang Model

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts's Shannon Community Safety Initiative (Shannon CSI) is a multi-sector data-driven approach, modeled after the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Comprehensive Gang Model. After completing a community needs assessment, Shannon funded communities, in collaboration with steering committees, develop strategies in the following five areas:

## Positive Youth Development & Recreation\*



Positive Youth Development and Recreation Programs provide a prosocial outlet for youth to expand and enhance their interests, skills and abilities. These programs are safe havens for recreational, enrichment, educational and prevention activities outside school hours (i.e., athletics and physical fitness, school achievement initiatives).

## Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention



Case Management Street Outreach or Intervention programs for gang involved and proven risk youth reach out and act as links to gang-involved youth, their families, and other traditional social service providers. For high risk youth and at-risk youth, social intervention programs can include drop-in recreation, positive youth development, and other mechanisms to reach young people and connect them to positive adults and constructive activities.

## Education & Employment



Education and Employment Programs provide education, training, and employment opportunities to youth at high-risk for youth violence and gang involvement.

## Suppression



Suppression programs include close supervision or monitoring of gang involved youth and other high impact players by police, prosecutors, probation officers, and other officers of the court. These programs include hotspot patrols, law-enforcement home visits, ride-alongs, re-entry, and special prosecutors.

## Community Mobilization



Community Mobilization Programs educate community members about local gang and youth violence trends, as well as involving community members in strategies to confront the problem.

Two additional funded components of Shannon CSI include the Local Action Research Partners (LARPs), and the Statewide Youth Violence Research Partner (SRP). LARPs assist funded sites by providing strategic, analytic, technical, and research support. The SRP assists all funded Shannon CSI communities, LARPs and the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security by providing strategic, analytic, and research support. Together the LARPs and SRP inform funded communities about best practices to maximize the effectiveness of the Shannon CSI.